MAFIA's
Realities and Representations of Organized Crime

CONFERENCE
April 25-26, 2014

FRIDAY
APRIL 25, 2014
9:30 AM– 6:00 PM
John Jay College
of Criminal Justice
524 West 59th Street
(between 10th and 11th Avenues)
New York, NY 10019

SATURDAY
APRIL 26, 2014
9:30 AM– 6:00 PM
John D. Calandra Italian
American Institute
25 West 43rd Street, 17th floor
(between 5th and 6th Avenues)
New York, NY 10036

FOR MORE INFORMATION
212.642.2094
www.qc.edu/calandra
MAFIAs: Realities and Representations of Organized Crime

THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 2014
6–8 PM: Welcome and reception at John Jay College of Criminal Justice
524 West 59th Street (between 10th and 11th Avenues), New York NY 10019

FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 2014
John Jay College of Criminal Justice
524 West 59th Street (between 10th and 11th Avenues), New York NY 10019

9:30–10:45 AM
American Origins

New Orleans, the First Capital of the Sicilian Mafia in America, STEFANO VACCARA, La VOCE di New York
Organized Crime Groups in the US (1890–1920): Home-grown or Italian Import?, SIMON MAY, Coventry University
Searching for the Origins of Organized Crime in New York City, R. BRIAN FERGUSON, Rutgers University-Newark

Re-imaging Mafia Narratives

Mafia Motifs in Andrea Camilleri’s Montalbano Novels, ADRIANA NICOLE CERAMI, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
A Misguided Approach to Combating the Mafia by the National Defense Institute, GAETANO CIPOLLA, St. John’s University
The Godfather, Media Excess, and Transhistorical Spectacle, MARY JO BONA, Stony Brook University, SUNY and JOANNE RUVOLI, Ball State University

11 AM–12:15 AM
Keynote: Mafia Emergence: What Kind of State?, JANE SCHNEIDER, The Graduate Center, CUNY

1:30–2:45 PM
Where Are the MAFIAs?
The Paradox of Organizing Organized Crime, AMIR ROSTAMI, Stockholm University
From Old to New Mafia: From “Cosa Nostra” to “Cosa Grigia,” GIACOMO DI GIROLAMO, Journalist
(Cyber) Extortion: An Assessment of the Enforcement Complications in Both Cyber and Physical Space, WILFRED BEAYE, Temple University

Making and Unmaking the Mafia in American Media

Early Representations of Organized Crime and Issues of Identity in the Italian-American Press (1890s–1920s), MARINA CACIOPPO, Università degli Studi di Palermo
An Examination of Mafia Spectatorship Phenomena from a Psychological Perspective, ANTHONY F. TASSO, Fairleigh Dickinson University

3–4:15 PM
Race and the Gangster Pose
“There is no Mano Nera in North Beach!” Crime and Race in San Francisco’s Italian America, TOMMASO CAIAZZA, University Ca Foscari of Venice
Black Caesar: Breaking into Business—At the Top, JOSEPH P. COSCO, Old Dominion University
Gangster Shirt, Ethnic Kitsch, and the Italian Americanization of College Basketball, JOHN GENNARI, University of Vermont

Anti-Pizzo, Anti-Mafia in Sicily
Norms and Trust: Addiopizzo’s Mobilization of Entrepreneurs in Palermo, CARINA GUNNARSON, Upsala University
Standing Up to the Mob in Sicily: The Case of Capo D’Orlando, GIL FAGIANI, Italian American Writers Association
Social Media and Sicily’s Anti-Mafia Movement, GEORGE DE STEFANO, Independent Scholar

4:30–5:45 PM
Places of Illicit Power
Havana, Cuba, and Organized Crime in North America, PETER SCHNEIDER, Fordham University
Camorra, from Cocaine to Power—The New Face of Organized Crime, GIUSEPPE COSTA, Stony Brook University, SUNY
Not Biting the Dust: Assessing the Properties and Success of India’s Sand Mafia, AUNSHUL REGE, Queens College, CUNY

5:30–6:45 PM
Italian American Film:
From old to New mafia: From “Cosa Nostra” to “Cosa Grigia”

6:45–8:45 PM
Grand Banquet: Welcome and Plenary Session

FRIDAY, APRIL 26, 2013
John D. Calandra Italian American Institute
25 West 43rd Street, 17th floor (between 5th and 6th Avenues), New York NY 10036

9:30–10:45 AM
From Chicago to Philadelphia and Back
Polish-American Organized Crime in Chicago, JAMES S. PULA, Purdue University
The “Numbers Mafia” in Philadelphia: A Case Study of the Longevity of the Alliance between the Racket and Politics, STEFANO LUCONI, University of Padua
Organized Crime in Chicago Heights: The Italian-American and Polish-American Experiences, LOUIS CORSINO, North Central College

11 AM–12:15 PM
Plenary: Participants to be announced

1:30–2:45 PM
The Photographic Work of Letizia Battaglia and Franco Zecchin
“An Unintended Archive”: Anti-Mafia Activism, Public Pedagogy and the Civil Contract of Photography, PAULA M. SALVIO, University of New Hampshire
Does the Mafia Exist? Anti-Mafia Photography and the Proof through Image, DEBORAH PUCCIIO-DEN, French National Center for Scientific Research

Discussants: AMY BOYLAN and PIERO GAROFALO, University of New Hampshire

3–4:15 PM
Sicilian Anti-Mafia: Education and Land Reform
From Bernardino Verro, Placido Rizzotto to Pio La Torre: The Anti-Mafia Fight for Land Reform and the Farm Cooperatives That Manifest Their Legacy, ANTHONY FRAGOLA, University of North Carolina Greensboro
Danilo Dolci’s Campaign against the Sicilian Mafia, LAWRENCE BALDASSARO, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Citizenship Education and Anti-Mafia Initiatives: Empowering Italian Youth to Combat Organized Crime, ANGÉLYN BALODIMAS-BARTOLOMEI, North Park University School of Education

Multi-ethnicity in American Gangster Films
“For Nicky, Las Vegas was the fucking Wild West”: Las Vegas as the Ultimate Frontier for the Diaporic Gangster, CAMILLA DUBINI, University College London
“You give your loyalty to a Jew before your own blood?” Diaporic Difference in The Godfather Part II, ROBERTA KLIMT, University College London
Blowing the Fedora Away: The Revisitation of the Gangster Film in the Coen Brothers’ Miller’s Crossing, FRANCESCA DE LUCIA, Independent Scholar

4:30–6 PM
Gender and Comparative Approaches to Media Depictions

Mafia Biopics: Rosi’s Salvatore Giuliano and Wilson’s Al Capone, GIOVANNA DE LUCA, College of Charleston
“That’s, that’s the flavor!” Representation of Food in Italian and American Mafia Movies, LAURA DI BIANCO, The Graduate Center, CUNY
From Mafia Dolls to Drug Queens: Realities and Representations of Colombian Women in the Drug Cartels, PATRICIA TOVAR, John Jay College, CUNY
Michele Placido’s Romanzo Criminale: Mafia, Masculinity, Melodrama, DANA RENGA, The Ohio State University